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DIDSBURY REVIEW

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CHRISTMAS COMES TO DIDSBURY - 1st Didsbury Scouts leader Dale Wrigley prepares cotton candy at the train station during Didsbury's Country Christmas on Nov. 28. For more see page 5.

Noel West/MVP Staff

Council requests waste commission audit

BY PAUL FREY
 MVP Staff

Didsbury town council passed a motion at its Nov. 25 meeting to not support a solid waste fee increase to the Town of Didsbury.

Didsbury council is kicking an increased requisition from Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission to the curb and is requesting, along with Carstairs council, an audit of the organization's 2014 financials.

The town received a requisition on Nov. 24 from the Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission (MVRWMC) totalling \$186,135 for 2015. The total that the town paid in 2014 was \$62,210. The new requisition would require each Didsbury home to pay \$27.70 per month - a \$7 increase over the 2014 rate - for a service Didsbury residents do not use.

Because utility services operate on a cost recovery basis, all increases are passed directly on to consumers. But in this case, both council members

and administrators from the town were not happy with such a large increase in the requisition. The town pays a requisition to the commission because it was a founding member - even though it no longer uses commission services.

"It's just too much of a hit (to residents)," said Coun. Garth Hollinger during discussions at the council meeting.

"Administration is very upset by this and I think council is upset by this," added Roy Brown, the town's chief administrative officer.

Brown told councillors that Sundre's chief administrative officer, David Dubauskas, emailed Brown and told him that all the options available to town councils to fight the increase were legal remedies.

Council passed a motion to not support the increase.

Brown told councillors that Carstairs council passed the same motion as Didsbury, including requesting an audit of the commission's financials.

Following the conclusion of the council meeting on Nov. 26, Didsbury

councillors went into a meeting that was closed to the public to discuss the MVRWMC requisition. Because no formal motions were made regarding the closed-door session, Mayor Rick Mousseau said he couldn't speak about what was discussed. But he did say that councillors are disturbed by the tripling of the requisition for 2015.

"It's not only us that's getting hit with an increase, it's other municipalities too, so we're quite concerned about it. Didsbury residents already pay a fee and to increase it again ... I don't think it's right. That's quite an increase," he said.

Town council will be eagerly awaiting a MVRWMC meeting on Dec. 4 and crafting a further response based on what comes out of that meeting, Mousseau said.

Mary Anne Overwater, chair of the MVRWMC, said one of the reasons why the commission raised the requisition to municipalities was that the revenues that were budgeted for in the past didn't materialize. Another reason is that expenses have gone up.

As a result of the commission's decision to raise the requisition, it will be hosting an all-council meeting on Dec. 4 to explain why that decision was made.

"At that point in time the ... finance standing committee will be presenting all the issues that we have come across in the past year and probably the previous few years. We felt it was best to have a council meeting like that ... and that way everybody has a chance to hear the same thing from the commission as to what obstacles we have come across over the past year and discuss the finances and direction of the commission," she said.

Overwater said commission board members have asked in-depth questions in regard to the commission's finances and have crafted the best budget possible within the constraints they have been presented with.

"There are things that have come our way that we were not prepared for expense-wise and we basically (prepared the budget) based on the information that was provided to us at the time," she said.



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Pool hoping to be open this week

BY PAUL FREY
MVP Staff

After being completely closed to repair the roof over the waterslide last week, it was hoped that the pool will resume a limited schedule this week.

The pool had been on a limited schedule for the past month while work crews repaired the roof on the pool. In the midst of that repair, an unexpected repair to the waterslide tower was needed, so last week, that portion of the roof was completely removed, necessitating a complete closure.

Originally, when the project was contemplated, it was hoped the repair wouldn't impact operations, said Nicole Aasen, the town's manager of community services.

But once the gravel on the roof had been removed and workers started applying a hot tar mixture about two weeks ago, it was decided to close the pool from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. so that neither pool staff nor patrons would be subject to the fumes. As a result, the pool was only open during evening hours.

"We didn't want the public or our staff to have to be around (the fumes)," Aasen said, so a modified evening schedule was put in place.

Last week's unexpected repair to the roof of the waterslide tower closed the

pool completely because the inside of the pool was open to the elements while the repair was being completed.

"The entire (roof repair), we're hoping will be done in the next three weeks and we can just be back to regular operating hours," she said. "We don't know exactly how bad (the waterslide portion) is going to be ... but we're just taking it as it comes because we don't want to be exposing the public or our staff to those noxious fumes."

Aasen said the best way to find out the pool's schedule is to call the pool, check the town's website at www.didsbury.ca or check the town's Facebook page.

"We're keeping people updated on what our hours are and we just ask for them to be patient because the roof does need to be replaced. But we do expect that in the next few weeks, the job will be completed," she said, adding that if everything goes according to plan, the pool could resume normal operating hours in about two weeks.

Western Weather Protector is completing the job. Council allocated \$409,000 to the roof repair. During the Nov. 25 meeting, council allocated an additional \$26,480 in operating funds to replace the steel decking on the waterslide tower.

No traffic changes proposed for 16th Street

BY PAUL FREY
MVP Staff

Another traffic study to determine if the area between 20th and 22nd avenues on 16th Street should be a designated playground zone will be conducted in the spring of 2015.

Council agreed to do the study based on a report recently submitted by Derek Sutherland, the town's manager of protective services following council's discussion at the Oct. 28 regular meeting.

Sutherland said in the report to council that based on the six criteria listed in the Guidelines for School and Playground Zones produced by Alberta Transportation, the area in question doesn't meet the criteria.

The ball diamond, which would be the playground area, only received a score of 36 based on the criteria. The minimal score for either a playground area or playground zone

is 40.

Both councillors Garth Hollinger and Kimberley Moore said at the Nov. 26 council meeting that further study on the issue was warranted.

While Coun. Lavar Adams said he had no difficulty with leaving the area as a 50 kilometre per hour area as it is now, he suggested that because the study was completed following the Oct. 28 meeting, that perhaps another study should be conducted in the warm weather months to see if there is more possibility for pedestrian/vehicle conflict in the spring.

Sutherland's study found that motorists were already lowering their average speed to 38 kilometres per hour in a 50 kilometre per hour zone.

"People are already dropping their speed limits," Adams said. "I have no problem with it as it is now. I think we need more study on what the traffic (volume) is."

Councillors decide against further support for dog park

BY PAUL FREY
MVP Staff

Town council decided at its meeting on Nov. 25 to maintain the current level of support to the dog park operated by the Didsbury Veterinary Clinic.

At the Oct. 28 meet-

ing, Dr. Andy Mencarelli asked council members if they could reduce the clinic's 2014 property tax bill by \$2,500. The amount represents half of the \$5,000 the clinic spent on fencing for the public dog park it built on the property.

Mencarelli also asked

council members to consider forgiving \$1,000 off the clinic's tax bill in subsequent years. At that time, council members decided to defer the decision.

The park is located on excess land the clinic is situated on.

Mencarelli told coun-

"Given that the town is already supporting the dog park I would really like to see them collect donations."

SHEILA SCHULZ
Didsbury town councillor

cil members at the Oct.

28 meeting that staff at the clinic was happy with the support town staff had given the facility, cutting grass in the summer and generally maintaining the space for use by community members and their pets.

Coun. Sheila Schulz said in light of the support the town has

already given to the dog park, she thought site users could donate to maintain the park.

"Given that the town is already supporting the dog park I would really like to see them collect donations," she said.

Schulz suggested that a council motion be put forward that when notices to renew dog licences are sent out to owners, information should be communicated that donations to the dog park would be accepted. Council members agreed with Schulz's motion.

Church Directory

The REVIEW is pleased to provide this Church Directory as a community service

Berghal Mennonite Church

Didsbury, Alberta - 5km S of the Didsbury Overpass, 8km E on Berghal Rd.
Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.
For more information phone 403-335-4451
Hearing Interpreter
email: berghal@explornet.com
www.berghalmennonitechurch.com

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Venue Church

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Pastors Richard & Beth Kope
1710 - 14 St., Didsbury 403-335-3551
Email info@venuechurch.ca
www.venuechurch.ca

West Zion Mennonite Church

westzion.com has a map for directions
Senior Pastor Don Shortt
Youth Pastor Josh Tiel
Sunday Services 10:00 a.m.
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St. Anthony's Catholic

2030 - 24 Ave. Didsbury
For more information please contact
Catholic Women's League:
Maxine Moreau 403-335-4948
Knights of Columbus:
Gary McNeil 403-335-8611
For more information
Olds St. Steven's Office
403-556-3084

Redeemer Lutheran Church Canada

1500 - 23 ST. • Rev. Robert Mohs
Church: 403-335-3161 / Res: 403-335-3656
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. • Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study Sunday - 9:30 a.m.
Holy Communion 2, 4 & 5 Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Jr. & St. Youth, Women's & Seniors' Ministry Group
Small Group Bible Study meetings
throughout the week

Mountain View Evangelical Missionary Church

14 km East of Didsbury Pastor Art Numan
Office: 403-335-4422
Morning Worship 11 a.m. • Sunday School 10 a.m.
For information concerning the weekly activities please call the Church Office.

Anglican Church of Canada St. Cyprian's

2037 - 24th Ave. Didsbury - 403-335-4664
Rector - David Asher
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion - 2nd & 4th Sunday
each month

St. Agnes Catholic Church

302 - 11 Avenue South
Carstairs, Alberta
Mass Times: Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Parish Priest -
Fr. Thomas Vadassery
403-940-1100

Zion Evangelical Missionary Church

#802 Secondary Highway 582
Phone: 403-335-3629
Web: www.zemc.org
Mike Morgan, Senior Pastor
Alison Lefebvre, Youth Pastor
Christine Little, Children's Pastor
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SEE YOU IN CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

Music students hone their craft

BY PAUL FREY
MVP Staff

Music students from around Chinook's Edge School Division honed their skills in JazzFest workshops in Didsbury on November 26 and 27.

About 250 students took part in clinics led by musicians from the Calgary Jazz Orchestra who coached the students through the intricacies of various instruments such as bass guitar, percussion and horns.

The students then performed for adjudicators who evaluated the students' efforts and offered further advice. The workshops were held at the Zion Evangelical Missionary Church. Students then performed in Olds at the TransCanada Theatre during evening performances on November 26 and 27.

This was the 13th year for the workshops in Didsbury, while the concerts in Olds have been going on for five years.

Students from Didsbury, Olds, Innisfail, Carstairs and Cremona participated in the workshops.

Tyrell Zimmerman, a Grade 12 Didsbury High School (DHS) student who has participated in the festival for several years, said he finds the workshops a good learning opportunity.

He plays bass guitar in the DHS Odds band. The

band consists of about 15 to 20 musicians playing rhythm (guitar, bass, piano and drums), a trumpet section, a saxophone section and a trombone section.

"It's shown me different ways to play it to sound better. I think it was two years ago I learned a different style for bass playing. It's just little things that help you improve," he said.

Mikaela Munn, a trumpet player in the DHS Odds band, said the workshops are a good opportunity to get more feedback about how one is playing.

"For us, it's a great opportunity because we go into competitions and on trips, and with the extra opinions of these adjudicators it allows us to know more of what we should do. With just your band teacher, it's one singular opinion, but by getting more opinions, it's adding to your knowledge of music and allowing you to grow, so it's really good to get adjudicated," she said.

Kirk Wassmer, the music director at DHS, said the JazzFest is a great opportunity for students to learn in small groups about the intricacies of their instruments from musicians who play those instruments and then come together as a large group and get feedback from Johnny Summers, director of the Calgary Jazz Orchestra, who adjudicated the students.



Noel West/MVP Staff

The Didsbury High School "Odds" Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Kirk Wassmer, performs during the CESD Student Jazz Night at the TransCanada Theatre on Nov. 26.



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Noel West/MVP Staff

The Didsbury High School "Odds" Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Kirk Wassmer, performs during the CESD Student Jazz Night at the TransCanada Theatre on Nov. 26.

"We've got this incredible learning environment here where the kids are learning from professional musicians. And then in the evenings, because jazz is an oral tradition – you learn by listening to it – we have two nights of evening concerts. The thing that is really neat is when the kids work with these musicians by day and they see (the professionals) performing at night, they realize they're part of a larger musical community, and I think that's really important," he said.

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Volleyball players in all-star game

BY PAUL FREY
MVP Staff

Four volleyball players from Didsbury High School participated in two separate south central zone all-star games on Nov. 26 in Black Diamond at Oilfields High School.

Kassi Taylor and Kyra Paulgaard played in the girls game while Tate Beasley and Will Davey took part in the boys game. The approximately 13 players on each squad were divided from schools on the east and west sides of the zone. Coaches from each of the schools offered up the names of the players to round out the rosters.

Taylor said she had a lot of fun at the event.

"I didn't really think of it as a competition. It was more (like) new experiences and I had so much fun. You think it would be odd to play with people you would play against normally, but everyone was actually very welcoming and it was (good). It wasn't awkward ... everyone was pretty comfortable with each other," she said.

Beasley said he found the experience quite

good. Like Taylor, he said he thought it would be awkward playing with players that are normally rivals, but that wasn't the case.

"The competition was hard. There was lots of good players. It was more just have fun and just play," he said.

Paulgaard said she was nervous at the beginning before the match started, but that nervousness disappeared once she got

on the court.

"It was a very positive environment and everyone knew how to play so you worked decently well with each other and it was more fun than competition," she said.

Paulgaard said since everyone who played on the all-star teams was among the top players on their own teams, the passing, setting and hitting posed no difficulties, but team chemistry

wasn't quite as cohesive.

"The only thing I found kind of difficult was just, when you play with your own team you kind of know your own individual roles and your setters seem to know how you want it (set). And so playing with other setters it was kind of difficult because maybe they set it too high, maybe they set it too low," Taylor added.



Noel West/MVP Staff

COLLISION CENTRAL - High winds made for icy roads and low visibility Nov. 28 on Highway 2. Didsbury and Olds RCMP as well as both municipal fire departments were called out to collisions throughout the morning and afternoon including this collision involving a semi in the northbound lanes of Highway 2 just north of the Olds overpass.

Colts trounce Banff Bears

BY PAUL FREY
MVP Staff

The Mountainview Colts travelled to Banff on Nov. 29 where they beat the Bears 8-3 in Heritage Junior Hockey League action.

The victory gives the Colts a 10-7-2 record, placing the team in fourth place in the northern division with 22 points, two behind the third-place Three Hills Thrashers and seven ahead of the Red Deer Vipers.

Jason Edwards held the hot stick for the Colts, scoring four goals and adding an assist, while Cole Sutherland and Colton Anderson each added three points for the Colts. Thomas Della Siega stopped 28 shots in nets for the Colts to earn the victory.

The Colts jumped out to an early lead in the first as Edwards got his first of two goals in the period just 39 seconds after the initial puck drop. He got his second goal of the period 4:31 later. Sutherland and Anderson added to the Colts' lead, giving the

visitors a 4-0 lead at the end of the first period.

Edwards then got his hat-trick goal at 3:16 of the second period on the power play before Nick Drought broke the goose egg for the Bears. Kobe Eagletail also scored for the Bears before the second period buzzer sounded.

Edwards opened the scoring in the third period with his fourth goal of the game at 0:23. Ryan Barrow got the Bears' lone goal of the third period at 16:45. The Colts rounded out the scoring with two goals in the final minute of the game by Anderson and Brandon Millard.

The Colts will be without the services of Anderson for the next three games after he was suspended by the league for a slashing penalty he took in the third period. On-ice officials deemed the slash an attempt to injure, and as such he will be out of the lineup until at least Dec. 13 in Red Deer, when the Colts take on the Vipers.

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CHRISTMAS COMES TO DIDSBURY



Noel West/MVP Staff

From left Catholic Women's League members Donna Desroches, Kathy Hutcheon, Theresa McNeil and Diana Hummerstone sell baked goods to raise money for their annual scholarship fund.



Noel West/MVP Staff

People browse through the offerings at the market in the Eiks Hall.



Noel West/MVP Staff

1st Didsbury Scouts leader Dale Wrigley, left, and Beaver Isaac Shantz prepare cotton candy at the train station during Didsbury's Country Christmas on Nov. 28.



Noel West/MVP Staff

Some woodworking items crafted by Adam Novak.



Noel West/MVP Staff

Back row from left Jared, Crystal and Julieta Quintana and front row left Benjamin and Melina Quintana get their picture taken with Santa Claus at the train station.

Opinion

Editorial Bridge and road funding vital to rural Alberta



DAN SINGLETON

The provincial government's decision to cut funding for the resource road and the local road bridge programs in 2013 and again in 2014 has created serious concerns across rural Alberta.

In an effort to get the government to start putting money back into the programs, the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC) has again passed a resolution calling for reinstatement of the funding.

During its recent annual convention in Edmonton, AAMDC members, including Red Deer and Mountain View counties, overwhelmingly backed the resolution put forward by the County of Lethbridge.

The resolution calls for the 2015 provincial budget to immediately provide funding for the programs, and states that if new funding is not forthcoming, it will certainly compound an already serious situation.

"This (zero funding of the programs) directly shifts the entire financial burden of bridge maintenance and replacement to municipalities. Support through government funding and reduced bureaucratic process while maintaining needed standards is critical," the resolution reads.

"This has had a significant impact on rural infrastructure/transportation networks. Previously the resource road program was funded at \$31 million; the local road bridge program was funded at \$26 million."

It is the second straight year that the association has called on the PC government to reinstate funding for the programs.

"It's unconscionable that the province continues to zero fund that (bridge) program," said Mountain View County reeve Bruce Beattie. "We are looking at our budget and we see the deficit that is building relative to these bridge structures."

Red Deer County mayor Jim Wood says provincial funding for bridges and roads is absolutely vital in his municipality.

"We've never expected the province to pay for all of our bridges, but at this point in time they are expecting us to pay for them all," said Wood. "We sure don't want to not be able to replace those bridges when the time comes."

Former premier Alison Redford chose to ignore the repeated warnings from the AAMDC and others that zero funding the resource and bridge programs would be detrimental to rural communities.

Although he is facing new financial pressures created by the recent drop in oil prices, Premier Prentice needs to show that he is serious about turning a new post-Redford page. And he can do that by coming up with the needed cash for rural roads and bridges.

Although rural Alberta doesn't have the population numbers, and therefore the votes, of the big urban centres, the voices of rural communities need to be heard in this case – for the sake of public safety and for the viability of the province's overall economy.



Letter to the editor Letter writer questions council procedure

Why, at the Nov. 25 council meeting, did the mayor restrict the gallery questions to only agenda items, after the call to order? This would appear to be in direct opposition to the public stated information below. This would appear to be another restriction in public access, as I have experienced in the past.

There are two separate gallery question periods at each meeting. One right after the Call to Order

and one right before the conclusion of the meeting (or before council goes in-camera if necessary). The first 15-minute "open house" period is designed so any resident can ask any question to council in an informal setting. The second gives residents an opportunity to discuss items that occurred in the council meeting.

Murray Smith
Didsbury

Commentary Canadian doctor develops social support tool

TRUDY LIEBERMAN

Last fall when I visited Canada I met a Toronto doctor named Gary Bloch who has developed a poverty tool for medical practitioners. The tool assesses what patients might need other than prescriptions for the newest drugs. Bloch's idea was to zoom in on the social determinants of health – food, housing, transportation – all poverty markers linked to bad health and poor health outcomes.

The tool, a four-page brochure, notes that poverty accounts for 24 per cent of a person's years of life lost in Canada and offers three steps for doctors to address poverty. The first step is to screen every patient by asking them, "Do you ever have difficulty making ends meet at the end of the month?" The next two steps urge clinicians to factor poverty into clinical decisions like other risk factors and to ask questions about income support by age/family status, such as whether seniors have applied for supplemental income benefits they may be entitled to.

"We've created an advocacy or interventional initiative aimed at changing the conversation about poverty and how doctors think about poverty as a health issue," Bloch explained. "It's one of those cultural shift things."

I decided to get back in touch with Bloch to see whether a cultural shift in Canada had taken place. Indeed it has. "It's been a wildfire effect," Bloch told me.

Bloch ticked off a laundry list of provinces and organizations that were using or about to use the tool. He described a "pretty amazing" and broad coalition that came together to promote the tool, including public health leaders, pediatric and family doctors, community health centres and regional health authorities. A doctor in British Columbia has developed a version for his region. Manitoba is about to roll out its own adaptation. A public health officer in Nova Scotia is pushing for the tool in that province. The tool is getting attention in Saskatchewan, too.

Physician groups, like the College of Family Physicians

Canada and the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario, have signed on. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) has developed a continuing education module based on these poverty interventions. On his website, CMA president Dr. Chris Simpson says, "Dr. Gary Bloch is one of those guys who walks the talk and speaks about 'prescribing money' as a way to help patients who are economically disadvantaged."

Simpson told me that Bloch's approach is the first clinically relevant tool to address social determinants of health. To support Bloch's work, the CMA's conversations and advocacy about the tool are heightening awareness among Canadian physicians that they need to address these risk factors. Simpson added that Bloch and his team also conduct trainings to help doctors learn how to use the tool.

Trudy Lieberman, a journalist for more than 40 years, is an adjunct associate professor of public health at Hunter College in New York City. She is an expert advisor at EvidenceNetwork.ca

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Leaky roof at town office an ongoing issue

BY PAUL FREY
MVP Staff

After years of small leaks to both the town office and library roof, money may be set aside in the 2015 Town of Didsbury budget to repair it.

During budget discussions on November 18 and 21, council members were told that roof repairs have been estimated to cost \$40,000 to \$60,000.

Greg Skotheim, the town's manager of planning, infrastructure and public works, said the town has experienced intermittent issues for about the past five years. The town had a facility inspection done on the building to assess the need for the repair.

"It's drips. It's not water

pouring in. It's affecting the town office and the library. We've got to get this thing looked after," he said.

Inez Kosinski, manager of the Didsbury Municipal Library, said while the library has experienced some book loss as a result, so far the library has not had any significant water damage.

"Mostly we've caught (the leaks) in time and we haven't lost too many books. They've tested the air quality in the library and it's OK," she said.

Kosinski said the leaks are sporadic and mostly due to significant rainstorms or large snowfalls. The town has had patches put on the roof in the spots where it has leaked several times over



Paul Frey/MVP Staff

SEASONAL SALES — Cimberley McMullen speaks to a potential customer at a craft sale organized by the First Didsbury Scouts at the Didsbury Memorial Complex on Nov. 29. McMullen's Didsbury business sells a variety of teas and related products. McMullen was one of 15 home-based businesses at the event. The scouts were also serving lunch at the event as a fundraiser for scouting activities.

the years.

The library staff would look forward to a more permanent solution, Kosinski added.

"That kind of security and assurance would be wonderful," she said. "It worries me because I don't want to lose expen-

sive books."

Rather than replace the entire roof, which would cost significantly more, Skotheim said administrators have decided to install a rubber membrane that should do the same job as a complete roof replacement.

"That will meet our needs and it's kind of a cost-effective product for this job," he said.

Council members are due to discuss the budget again on Dec. 9 and are expected to pass a provisional 2015 budget before the end of December.

Small adjustments will be made to the budget in the spring once the tax assessment and various requisitions have been finalized for council's consideration. The town's budget will be finalized sometime in the spring of 2015.

TOWN OF DIDSBURY



Town Office: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm 403.335.3391
Public Works: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm 403.335.8343
Information Line 403.335.2030
After Hours (Toll Free) 866.527.5866
Didsbury Neighborhood Place 403.335.8719
Aquatic Centre and Arena 403.335.7369
www.didsbury.ca

PUBLIC MEETINGS

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS: Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 6:00 pm.

MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: Wednesday December 10, 2014 at 4:30 pm

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held in Council Chambers at the Town Office.

FREE Family Sponsored Swim

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Sunday December 28, 2014

5:00-7:00 pm

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Town of Didsbury Utilities Department

Reminder:

Holiday Garbage Pick Up: December 30 & 31 and January 2

If your pick up day is normally scheduled for Thursday, please put out your black bin by 7:00 am on Wednesday, December 31 for pick up as there will be no service on January 1 for the holiday

Holiday Recycling Pick up: December 23, 24, 30 & 31:

If your pick up day is scheduled for Thursday, December 25 and January 1, please put out your recycling bin on Wednesday, December 24 & 31, as there will be no service on December 25 or January 1 for the holiday.

ROLLOUT CART PICK-UP SCHEDULE

	December	January
Black Bin	2, 3, 4, 16, 17, 18, 24, 30, 31	2, 13, 14, 15, 27, 28, 29
Green Bin	pick-up ceases until the spring	pick-up ceases until the spring

Please visit www.didsbury.ca/town/recycling to view the zone map to determine what day your bin will be picked up.

• Recycling Blue Bins will be picked up every week on your collection day.



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2014 PROPERTY TAXES

Have you remembered to pay your 2014 property taxes?

The year end penalty of 18% on all outstanding balances as of December 31, 2014 will be applied on January 2, 2015.

An Unplugged Christmas Family Event



Saturday, December 13

1:00 - 4:00 pm

Didsbury Memorial Complex

Get ready for a FREE family event filled with swimming, holiday festivities, snacks, & fun for the whole family!!!



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Deadline for registration is December 5

Please contact Didsbury Neighborhood Place at 403.335.8719 to sign up

NEW DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Development Permits have been issued for the following proposed developments:

DP 14-87	2102 - 21 Ave	Addition—w/conditions	R2
DP 14-88	2837 - 19 Street	Shop and Offices—w/conditions	DC
DP 14-91	1522 - 22 Ave	Accessory Building, Fabric - w/conditions	R2

Further information may be obtained at the Town Office, 2037 - 19 Avenue or by calling 403.335.3391. Persons wishing to appeal any of these decisions must do so in writing, with the appropriate fees, to the Secretary, Development Appeal Board, prior to 4:30 p.m. on December 16, 2014.

Dani Woodman - Development Officer

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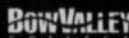
► Bow Valley College, in partnership with Campus Alberta Central, is launching our successful Health Care Aide career program in Didsbury in February 2015. In just four months, you can become an in-demand graduate in the vital field of health care without ever leaving your community.

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Contact Didsbury Municipal Library:

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2033 19 Ave, Didsbury, AB



AROUND TOWN

WITH THE DIDSBURY LIBRARY

December 3

"What's It All About? Wednesdays". Meet Marjorie Malinowski at the Library at 7 pm and learn all about carbon credits: What are they? How are they created? Why are they created? Who buys them and Why?

December 6

3D Printing Workshop at the Library from 1 to 4 pm. Join us to learn from MachinaCorp how to find, make and fix files to create 3D print jobs. Only people who have taken this course will be able to use the 3D Printer for their own projects. Please register at the library. Fee is \$10.00

December 7

Melvin Hall Christmas Potluck 12:00 p.m. at Melvin Hall, 7 miles west of Didsbury 3135, Hwy 582. For more information: 403-335-8352. All welcome. Door Prizes, Santa, Carolling. Please bring a potluck item. (call 403-335-8352 for more information). Admission by Donation.

December 7

Sip & Indulge @ the Library from 6 to 10 pm. Enjoy seasonal sips and snacks while watching Irving Berlin's classic (and classy) White Christmas. Tickets are \$20 - all proceeds to the Didsbury Library Building Fund. Purchase tickets on the Didsbury Library facebook page or at the Library.

December 9

Mountain View Christian Women's Breakfast, Tuesday, December 9 9:30 to 11:30 am. Redeemer Lutheran Church 1500 23 St. \$6 per person - free babysitting. Special Feature - The Quilting Bee presentation by Cheryl Naglis. Special Music - Amy Hunter - Bells. Special Speaker - Laurie Abbott "Searching for Hidden Treasures". For reservations, please call Ann 403 335-8444.

December 14

A Winter/Christmas Concert presented by the Olds Community Chorus at 7:30 PM at the Zion Evangelical Church, Didsbury. The chorus performs a variety of music for your enjoyment. Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student, children 6 and under - free

December 16

A Winter/Christmas Concert presented by the Olds Community Chorus at 7:30 PM at the Olds First Baptist Church, Olds. The chorus performs a variety of music for your enjoyment. Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student, children 6 and under - free

January 14

Special Meeting of the Museum Membership, to discuss By Law changes, will be held at the Museum on January 14, 2015 at 7 pm.

Promote your events in this column. Send info to didsburylibrary@prl.ab.ca or drop off copy at Didsbury Library 2033 19 Ave.

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THANK YOU, EVERYONE, for understanding that with the severe road conditions and extreme freezing temperatures our horse & wagons and Rudolph's Friends had to cancel. This has never happened before, but the risks of injuries both to humans and animals were just too great. Thank you again to the volunteers who helped with lights and especially to Ron for making sure everything was working even in the extreme cold.

Just a reminder that the residential lighting contest runs from December 7-13 so keep those lights on!

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Towle moves forward with conviction, hope, heartbreak

BY JOHNNIE
BACHUSKY
MVP Staff

Twenty-four hours before Kerry Towle made her stunning

announcement on Nov. 24 that she was leaving the Opposition Wildrose party to join the governing Tories she quietly cleaned out her office at the legislature.

Aside from her husband Dan and Premier Jim Prentice, no one knew about her decision – not even Danielle Smith, the leader of the Wildrose whom she considered a close friend.

"I have made harder decisions in my life but this was the most awful feeling decision I have made in a long time," said Towle, adding her first communication with Smith about the decision was 45 minutes before her announcement with the premier on Nov. 24. It was Smith who texted her to express her disappointment.

"If I thought I could have talked to her I would have, but that is just the way it goes. That is politics. You don't walk in to the leader and tell them you're leaving. They would kick you out right there," said Towle, acknowledging the close

friendship is now over.

It was a week of great strain and little sleep for the rookie Innisfail-Sylvan Lake MLA. She spent much of last week on the government side of the legislature, forced to endure the disdain from former Wildrose colleagues who once respected her. And then, there was the knowledge she's a pariah to Wildrose loyalists who long revered her for the pugnaciousness of her stances against the governing Tories.

"I wanted to get out of session and back to my riding as soon as possible. When I was in Edmonton I felt awful. I had to be accountable for my decision, and it was hard," said Towle.

She also has to convince many of her constituents she is not a turncoat or an opportunist who bolted just because

the Wildrose party is struggling through its worst internal crisis in its brief history.

"Everything I stand for has not changed. I believe this government has to do more for seniors and the vulnerable," said Towle, who must go through a Tory nomination process to represent the Innisfail-Sylvan Lake riding before June 1. "I believe this government has to get spending under control. I believe this government has to get to balanced budgets and consolidating the budget reporting to Albertans. None of that has changed."

"What has changed is that I believe the Wildrose party was falling apart, and I believe the membership was dictating how we vote," she added. "There was a certain faction of people who decided they were

going to run the party and they were sending the party in a direction that was not in line with my views or with the views I shared with my constituents. When I realized that, I then knew I was no longer representing my constituency in the right way."

Towle said last Friday she had received more than 300 phone calls and emails from citizens since Nov. 24, with about 10 per cent rejecting her decision and about 10 of those "really angry".

"I told them I was sorry for disappointing them. I tell them I hope they can see over the next 15 months that I will work hard and nothing has changed with that but I understand if they can't support me," said Towle, adding the overall response to her decision has been "overwhelmingly" supportive.



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DIDSBURY MINOR HOCKEY PLAYER SPOTLIGHTS

ATOM: Damian Sanford

Age: 9 Position: Centre



Damian met the band Devildriver. He loves shoes and the color red. His favorite NHL hockey team is the Chicago Blackhawks.

ATOM: Taylor Bernard

Age: 9 Position: Left Wing



Taylor's favorite hockey team is the Vancouver Canucks. He likes the color orange and his favorite hockey player is Marc-Andrew Fleury. He has one brother and one sister.

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DIDSBURY MINOR HOCKEY PLAYER SPOTLIGHTS

TYKE: Wyatt McDonald

Age: 6 Position: Right Wing



Wyatt is a twin brother to Hunter McDonald. He likes the movie Transformers 4, loves to eat macaroni and his favourite colour is red.

TYKE: Darren Walker

Age: 4



Darren is a cowboy and he rides bucking bulls. His favourite hockey team is the Didsbury Ramblers and his favourite hockey player is his dad. He also likes to eat vegetables.

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McCUE, Thomas**April 1, 1919 - November 19, 2014**

Thomas McCue, after a life well lived, passed away peacefully at the Didsbury Health Unit on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at the age of 95 years. Tom was born in Glasgow, Scotland to parents John and Annie McCue. Tom lived in Drumheller, Alberta where he grew up with his siblings Margaret, George and Jack. He believed in living life to the fullest and together with his wife, Betty raised ten children. After meeting in England during WWII, Tom and Betty started their life in Canada in Drumheller. They also lived for many years in Calgary and retired to Didsbury in 1982. Tom is lovingly remembered by his children, John, Susan, Madeline, Ian (Rosie), Tom (Joy), Bill (Lorraine), Liz, Fran and Richard (Marjorie); 15 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Tom was predeceased by his wife, Betty Susan (nee Howell); and daughter, Caroline Krieger. Tom proudly served Canada during WWII from 1941 - 1946 with the 112 Battery of the Royal Canadian Artillery.

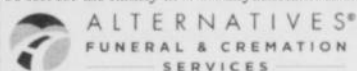
Tom challenged himself with a daily exercise program that kept him fit and healthy and in this he was a wonderful example of self-care. He did standing push ups off of the kitchen counter every day into his nineties. He enjoyed his daily walks with his loyal furry companion, Lizzie. Tom was an avid reader and had an inquisitive mind, believing the world to be full of interesting people to talk to.

His love of the songs of Neil Diamond sustained him and he especially enjoyed tinkering with electronics.

Tom had a passion for racing pigeons and was a long standing member of the Calgary Racing Pigeon Club. It gave him great pride to share his passion with friends and family. Visitors would often be asked to take a box of pigeons with them for release at their home destinations so that he could time their flight back to him. Tom and Betty both loved the beautiful melodies created by their many pet canaries. Tom was very much the inspiring father and grandfather, whom we will all remember with pride. He will be remembered for his easy laugh and joking ways. He touched the lives of all who knew him with his gentle spirit, always the polite and consummate gentleman and was a loyal friend with a generous heart. His often sought advice was always thoughtful and given with love.

The family would like to extend their appreciation to the staff at the Aspen Ridge Lodge and the Didsbury Health Centre for their care and compassion. Special thanks to Linda Neufeld for her loving care and kindness to Dad. A Celebration of Tom's Life will be held in July of 2015.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Tom's memory to the Veteran's Food Bank, #1, 4539 - 6 Street NE, Calgary, AB or to the Aspen Ridge Lodge, PO Box 2290, Didsbury, AB, T0M 0W0. Messages of condolence may be left for the family at www.myalternatives.ca.



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Located 2 km east of the Didsbury over pass on HWY 582 on the north side of the road

FRONT PORCH REALTY

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1912 - 16 Street



College Green 50+ Villa for sale! 2 + 1 bdrms, 2 full baths, main floor laundry, oak kitchen, large master, good storage, reasonable HOA fees, no more mowing or shoveling!

\$239,900

403, 1881 - 17 Street



Lovely Campus Green apartment condo for sale, over 1200 sq ft, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, spacious oak kitchen, air conditioning, wrap around balcony with storage closets at each end.

\$229,900

1308 - 23 Avenue



2 + 1 bedrooms, 2 full baths, new basement development, 45 +, no condo fees, nice area of town.

\$259,900

#94, Didsbury Mobile Home Park



Wow! mobile home on rented lot with 2 additions, 1459 sq ft, many upgrades incl. hardwood, drywall instead of paneling, newer roof, siding, furnace etc... 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, nice location in the park.

\$84,900

758 Stonehaven Dr., Carstairs



Gorgeous executive style home, 1572 sq ft, tile, hardwood, gas fireplace, vaulted ceiling, main floor laundry, quartz counter tops in gourmet kitchen, oversized double attached garage.

\$459,900

2.62 Acres of Country Living



1292 sq ft home built in 1996, open floor plan, gas fireplace, oak kitchen with island, double attached garage, 40 X 80 quonset, on pavement.

\$579,900

10.25 Acres NW of Didsbury



Zoned AG2, ravine view, most of the way on pavement, services at the road.

\$229,900

Congratulations

to the winner of our
turkey draw at
Didsbury Country
Christmas:

*** Scott Hatcher ***

Thanks to everyone that
stopped by for a visit!

55 Southridge Crescent



1078 sq. ft. mobile on its own lot, lots of upgrades in recent years, metal roof, 3 bedrooms, fenced back yard, great starter or rental home.

\$179,900

830 Stonehaven Dr., Carstairs



Brand new 1575 sq ft 2 storey, 3 bedrooms plus upper floor den, 2 1/2 baths, hardwood, gas fireplace, large yard backing onto Carstairs golf course.

\$409,900

2143 - 18 Avenue



3 bedroom bungalow with many main floor and exterior upgrades, country kitchen with newer white cabinetry, vinyl windows, large lot, single detached garage, backs onto park.

\$239,900

221 Valarosa Place



Gorgeous family home, 3 + 1 bedrooms, 3 baths, hardwood, tankless hot water, in floor heat in basement, heated bathroom floors on main, detached garage.

\$349,900

1 Mile South of Didsbury



Terrific acreage on pavement, 2.67 acres, 1392 sq ft character home, 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, older barn, lots of mature trees and room to roam.

\$309,900

37 Sandpiper Drive



3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, hardwood, open plan, great basement setup for entertaining, fully fenced, nice subdivision near the high school.

\$369,900

1203 - 21 Street



Over 1400 sq ft bungalow, recent upgrades, 3 + 2 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, tankless hot water system, walk up from basement, double heated detached garage.

\$284,900

3.16 Acres Near Didsbury



1100 sq ft home, 3 + 1 bedrooms, 2 baths, 18' X 26' heated workshop, 40' X 60' quonset, on pavement, great little hobby farm set-up

\$489,000

46 Stromsray Gate, Carstairs



Spacious floor plan in this 50+ condo unit, hardwood floors, coffered ceiling in living room, gas fireplace, amazing ensuite, covered rear deck with gas hookup, double garage, close to the golf course.

\$439,900

52 Stromsray Gate, Carstairs



Fantastic 50+ home, over 2400 sq ft developed, quartz counter tops, large walkin pantry, walkout on third level, gas fireplace, etc...

\$439,900

84 Westpoint Drive



Beautifully maintained 3 level split, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, vaulted ceilings, large fenced yard, super location backing onto acreages.

\$339,900

207 Westhill Close



LOCATION!!!! 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, front walkout, large newly redo'd family room, oak kitchen, newer flooring through much of home, close to golf, schools, parks, downtown etc...

\$279,900

302 Campus Green



Very well cared for apartment condo, 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, air conditioning, balcony with 2 storage closets, well run condo with reasonable monthly fees, indoor parking.

\$179,900

#11 Little Red Acres



1 acre lot on the edge of Water Valley, services to property line, backs onto green space, last lot in Little Red Acres.

\$109,900

2.50 Acres west of Didsbury



Well maintained and upgraded mobile home, wood burning stove, trees, 3 sheds, area prepped for shop, only minutes from Didsbury on pavement.

\$349,900